

was that was given to Senator Abboud, when he asked if there would be additional pay contemplated, and the answer was no, whether that is in the contemplation of those pushing the bill or not I think is of no consequence. It wouldn't be difficult to show that these people are performing more duties than those required of a weigh station attendant, or whatever they are called, carrier enforcement person. And with that being established by a legislative requirement, these people, I think, are in a very strong position to argue that they're entitled to additional compensation because they are performing duties other than those encompassed in their job description. But that's not what my major concern is. I am upset because we have people so enamored of the gun that they feel they must have one. As one of my colleagues pointed out, there's a good chance that some drug finds were fabricated or set up, near the time the bill was being heard, by these people at these weigh stations in order to provide support for a bill of this kind. What people need to try to understand, if they can, if a person is pursuing crime as a way of life, notoriety is not what that person wants, unless they're conducting a lottery, a race track or something of that nature. But if they are going to be the traditional type of criminal who is frowned upon, he or she does not want that fact known. So if, as a part of their criminal activity, the rig or the trailer or both of these trucks may become a part of the facilitation of criminal activity, they will not do it in such a way as to call attention to themselves. When they approach these weigh stations now they have to worry about the ordinary things that these people, who work at those locations, deal with. Right now there is no inclination for somebody to pull in with one of these trucks, see a weigh station attendant look suspicious and say, uh-oh, I better act first and blow that person away and pull the truck out and run. This person who is at the weigh station is viewed as a civilian. This stop at the weigh station is not for law enforcement purposes, other than as they relate to these rules and regulations relative to the proper equipment, weight and so forth of these trucks. But if you arm these individuals, you change the entire relationship, you up the stakes for everybody, and people who are not now in danger will be placed in danger by the enactment of this legislation and the silliness of these people who want to strap guns on and play like they're Wyatt Earp or Clint Eastwood. Just because we have fools out there wanting to engage in foolishness does not mean the Legislature has to accommodate them. Our job is to enact wise and just laws, and try to set a tone in this society that will encourage people to move away